

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT
Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan Coordinator
(\$45,000 per year – Not to exceed 3 years)

The incumbent serves as a Coordinator for the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP) to facilitate and assist State resource agencies in the Southeast in the development of State Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Management Plans. In this role, the incumbent is responsible for effective disposition of a complex array of duties throughout the Southeast. Funding for this position is a 3-year grant agreement from the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies to the Southeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The incumbent would serve as a contract employee to the SARP. The Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies will provide financial oversight to the position.

Background: SARP was initiated in 2001 to address the myriad issues related to the management of aquatic resources in the southeast region. It was modeled after the coalition that created the successful North American Waterfowl Management Plan, with emphasis on partnerships and a landscape level focus. SARP is comprised of representatives from the states of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, South Carolina, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Virginia, and Arkansas.

SARP developed six key issue areas: 1) public use; 2) fishery mitigation; 3) imperiled fish and aquatic species recovery; 4) inter-jurisdictional fisheries; 5) aquatic habitat conservation, and; 6) aquatic nuisance species. The incumbent will focus on coordination of the SARP membership regarding aquatic nuisance species activities, but will also be expected to work with other aquatic nuisance species regional panels.

Duties: The primary role of this position is to accelerate the development of state ANS management plans and to facilitate cohesiveness between state and regional ANS plans.

Specific duties might include the following:

- a. Coordinate with state fish and wildlife agencies to complete state ANS Management Plans in the SARP 12-state region.
- b. Work with state fish and wildlife agencies, federal agencies, and other partners to develop effective state and regional approaches for implementing ANS management plans, including early detection, rapid response, management and control strategies.
- c. Develop or facilitate the development of a geographically referenced database and tracking system that can be used by SARP states to monitor ANS activities and measure accomplishments at both the state and regional level.

- d. Provide quarterly and annual reports of accomplishments to the SARP Steering Committee and Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.
- e. Be responsible for disseminating information and guidance to facilitate the overall implementation of actions and projects with the SARP, focusing primarily on aquatic nuisance species issues.
- f. Provide primary staff support to SARP Steering Committee, advisory groups and program activities.
- g. Facilitate communication between partners on ANS issues and activities by developing a quarterly newsletter.
- h. Coordinates outreach activities of SARP, focusing primarily on aquatic nuisance species issues.
- i. Pursues funding initiatives for the SARP.

Specific Qualifications: Specific qualification may include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Working knowledge of fish and wildlife issues in the Southeastern U.S., including knowledge of aquatic nuisance species issues. Insight of current federal, regional and state ANS activities is recognized as beneficial to this position.
- b. Comprehensive knowledge of fish and wildlife biology and aquatic resource management on a landscape basis.
- c. Highly developed written and oral communication skills in dealing with complex issues.
- d. Ability to deal effectively with Congressional staff, federal and state resource agencies and NGOs to enlist their support and cooperation.
- e. Ability and skills necessary to develop and market grant proposals and other funding initiatives.

Other: The position will be housed in the southeast to provide convenient access to key partners in SARP. The location may be at a state fish and wildlife agency or other location. It is anticipated that travel, funded through the SARP, will be frequent to states throughout southeast. The appointment term for the coordinator will be 3-years.

For information on applying, contact Bill Reeves at 615-781-6575 or Linda Kelsey at 404-679-7082.